

## **New Life Project AMATYC Developmental Mathematics Project Summary**

The New Life Project of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) Developmental Mathematics Committee is **working** to design and implement a new vision for developmental mathematics. The new vision focuses on developing mathematical reasoning, skills, and critical thinking for all developmental mathematics students as well as creating new academic pathways in mathematics for two-year college students. Students will experience and develop skills with diverse mathematics selected from basic areas, and this content will be designed to involve significant applications that students can identify with in a variety of disciplines and provide strong support for quantitative literacy.

The New Life Project has three goals:

1. Develop consensus around a new Mission Statement for Developmental Mathematics
2. Build curricular models which follow from this Mission Statement with an explicit goal of a reduction in the number of courses a student would need to complete.
3. Build and create support for increasing the “readiness state” of the system (college, state, and national policy) to enable faculty to implement these curricular models..

When this Project is successful, most colleges will have replaced their old developmental mathematics courses with a system reflecting the new models. In addition, the proportion of students who complete their mathematics pathway will have increased dramatically.

Recognizing that these broad changes in the content and delivery of developmental mathematics to two-year college students will necessitate system changes beyond the two-year college classroom, this Project also includes activities that will facilitate dialogue among stakeholders and implement changes at the institution, state, and national levels.

The New Life Project is not the first project to address the needs of the profession; previous efforts have had limited success. Fundamentally, this Project is different because of the process used: the New Life Project seeks to accomplish its goals by inviting more and more professionals into the conversation. We seek common understandings and consensus, rather than expecting professionals to implement somebody else’s best thinking; we will grow and build systemic solutions, rather than encourage the use of separate strategies.

### **How can YOU become engaged?**

- ❖ Join AMATYC (see <http://amatyc.org/Join-AMATYC/index.htm>)
- ❖ Join the Developmental Mathematics committee (see <http://devmath.amatyc.org/join.htm>)
- ❖ Visit the New Life online community (see <http://dm-new-life.wikispaces.com/>)

The New Life Project of the Developmental Mathematics Committee will be discussed at the 2009 AMATYC annual conference, November 12-15 in Las Vegas, NV in a special Developmental Mathematics Symposium and Workshop. Plan to attend or look for updates from the Developmental Mathematics Committee at the websites above or [www.amatyc.org](http://www.amatyc.org).

The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) has a 35-year history of offering professional development to the nation’s two-year college faculty. Through its annual conferences, the

work of its 44 state affiliates, its services, and the authorship of two national standards documents, *Crossroads* (1995) and *Beyond Crossroads* (2006), AMATYC has led the way to professionalism and scholarship of teaching for faculty.